United Nations A/ES-10/80–S/2001/432

General Assembly
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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 1 May 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The Israeli Government continues to pursue its bloody military campaign, which began on 28 September 2000, against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, causing more Palestinian deaths and injuries and destruction of property, and terrorizing the Palestinian civilian population under its occupation.

Yesterday, 30 April 2001, an explosion was set off in the city of Ramallah, completely destroying a two-storey building and killing three people, including a 7-year-old Palestinian boy and his 3-year-old sister. The Israeli occupying forces had apparently been targeting the man who was killed in that blast, 24-year-old Hassan Qadi. The explosion thus represents another criminal method being used by the Israeli occupying forces to continue carrying out the illegal practice of extrajudicial killings.

Further, two other explosions were also set off in the Gaza Strip yesterday, which resulted in the killing of three more Palestinians. In addition to the deaths caused by such violent and brutal actions, committed with absolutely no regard for international humanitarian law and the lives of innocent civilians in residential areas, several other civilians were injured and severe structural damage was caused by both the Ramallah and Gaza bombing explosions.

We hold the Israeli Government fully responsible for the above-mentioned actions and their serious consequences, which represent additional war crimes being committed by the occupying Power against the Palestinian civilian population under its occupation. Moreover, we reiterate that such actions are akin to state terrorism being perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinian people.

In follow-up to our previous letters to you on this critical issue, dated from 29 September 2000 to 26 April 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-

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S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; and A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418), I wish to draw your attention to the fact that, since our last letter, 10 Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces. (The names of the martyrs are contained in the annex to this letter.) These killings, resulting from the use of excessive force through numerous military means being used by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000, bring the total number of Palestinian martyrs to 437 people. It is clear that while the international community continues to fail to intervene in the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, the number of Palestinian deaths and injuries continues to rise as Israel persists with its bloody military campaign.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Marwan A. **Jilani**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Thursday, 26 April to Tuesday, 1 May 2001)

Thursday, 26 April 2001

Atef Ahmed Wahdan

Saturday, 28 April 2001

Emad Dawoud Karaa'kia

Monday, 30 April 2001

1. Adnan Asa'ad Marzouk
2. Hamdi Selim Al Madhoun
3. Abdel Karim Abu Khaled (18 years old)
4. Hasan Al Qadi
5. Jamal Barakat (7 years old)
6. Malak Jamal Barakat (3 years old)
7. Wael Khalil Abu Muheisen

Tuesday, 1 May 2001

Mohammed Suleiman Abu Jazar

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* Total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 = 437.

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Security Council

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General Assembly
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Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 7 May 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Today, the Israeli occupying forces brutally killed a four-month-old baby girl, Iman Mustafa Hijo, and critically wounded her mother as well as wounding more than 20 other Palestinian civilians, including at least 10 children. This savagery occurred when soldiers of the occupying Power, Israel, unleashed tank shelling and machine-gun fire on the Khan Yunis refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. In addition to the shelling of homes, a school in the camp was also shelled.

Also today, Israeli occupying forces carried out incursions into two Palestinian towns under full Palestinian control in the West Bank, killing a Palestinian teacher and injuring dozens of civilians. Throughout the day, Israeli occupying forces continued shelling an area near Bethlehem, including the Aida refugee camp. A school in the camp was among those hit by heavy Israeli fire, which resulted in several injuries. In Al-Khalil, a frequent site of Israeli violence, a Palestinian police officer was also killed today and two civilians were injured by Israeli fire.

Yesterday, Israeli occupying forces carried out incursions in the town of Beit Jalla near Bethlehem, using tanks and machine-gun fire. The attacks resulted in the killing of a Palestinian man and the injury of more than 20 people. Among the children injured were a 10-year-old girl who lost her eye and a 6-year-old boy whose arm was shot off as he fled his home, which was being shelled. The attacks also caused extensive damage and destruction to several homes in the town.

At the same time, the Israeli occupying forces continued to pursue the illegal and criminal policy of extrajudicial killing. On Saturday, 5 May 2001, Israeli forces shot and killed a man in the village of Irtas near Bethlehem. The man was targeted as he stood in front of his house and was struck by more than 20 bullets fired at him from an Israeli military outpost, killing him instantly.

These violent actions follow Israel's other destructive and lethal actions over the past week throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Last week in Gaza, approximately 18 homes were demolished in an attack by the Israeli occupying

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forces on the Brazil refugee camp in Rafah. In addition to one dead and more than 15 injured, this attack left dozens of Palestinians homeless, for whom the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) is now providing emergency shelter and care. A mosque in the area was also severely damaged by the shelling. The cities of Tulkarem and Jericho were other targets of recent Israeli attacks, in which one Palestinian man was killed and more than 10 civilians were wounded.

In follow-up to my previous letters to you on this grave matter, dated from 29 September 2000 to 1 May 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; and A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432), I wish to inform you that, since my last letter to you, 6 more Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces. (The names of the martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.) Regrettably, this brings the total number of Palestinian martyrs killed since 28 September 2000 to a total of 443 people.

This Israeli campaign of violence, terror and brutality against Palestinian civilians, their homes, properties and land has now entered into its eighth month. Thus, in addition to the hundreds of killings and tens of thousands of injuries of Palestinian civilians, the actions of the Israeli occupying forces in wholly civilian areas have endangered the lives of hundreds of thousands of Palestinian children, women and men. As Israel, the occupying Power, continues to pursue this inhuman military campaign against the civilian population under its occupation, the need of the Palestinian people for international protection continues to be a matter of great urgency. We call upon the international community and the Security Council to take the necessary action in this regard.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 7 May 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Wednesday, 2 May through Monday, 7 May 2001)

Wednesday, 2 May 2001

1. Mahmoud Nimr Abdel Hadi Aqel (17 years old)

Saturday, 5 May 2001

1. Ahmed Khalil As'ad

Sunday, 6 May 2001

1. Mohammed Ibrahim Obead

Monday, 7 May 2001

1. Iman Mahmoud Hijo (4 month old)
2. Hussein Khadr Abu Tammam
3. Murad Fayez Al-Gharoush

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* Total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 = 443.

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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 9 May 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

In a meeting with the press yesterday, the Prime Minister of Israel, Mr. Ariel Sharon, confirmed the worst fears of the Palestinian side and those of the international community. Mr. Sharon's unyielding positions, which are reflective of his Government, come from the pre-peace process era in the Middle East and signal a total disregard of international law and the effective destruction of the existing agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides.

In his statements to the press, Mr. Sharon claims that the Palestinian Territory occupied by Israel since 1967 is "disputed" and "not occupied". He further rejects the cessation of settlement activities which can only mean, irrespective of his illogical justifications, that he does not accept the removal of these settlements as part of a final peace settlement. With regard to the negotiations between the parties, he makes the resumption of negotiations conditional upon the "total cessation of violence" and, even then, his aim would be to reach a "non-belligerency pact" followed by a very long period before the consideration of final status issues. This is obviously an Israeli attempt to impose a perpetual transition on the Palestinian side in order to escape the final settlement covering all pending issues mandated by the existing agreements between the two sides.

Mr. Sharon also claims that Israeli-imposed restrictions on the movement of Palestinian persons and goods are being exaggerated by the Palestinian side. As in the past, Mr. Sharon's statements distort history and reveal a starkly condescending attitude towards the Palestinian people and their national rights.

The entire international community does not accept the above-mentioned positions and statements, as reflected in the United Nations resolutions regarding, inter alia, the illegal status of Israeli settlements and the status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, since 1967. We call on all members of the international community to reiterate their rejection and condemnation of such destructive positions and statements.

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The Palestinian Territory occupied by Israel since 1967 remains occupied and Israeli settlements remain illegal and should be removed. Further, during negotiations all settlement activities should cease. We believe that if there is any territory of which the legal status is unclear or disputed, it is that part of the territory which was allocated to the Arab State in partition resolution 181 (II) and which was occupied by Israeli troops in 1948. Repeated Israeli attempts to undermine Security Council resolution 242 (1967) can lead only to emphasis of the above-mentioned fact, which remains valid unless and until a final settlement is reached between the two sides.

The sad reality of Mr. Sharon's positions and statements proves once more the urgent need for action by the international community to uphold international law, ensure respect of signed agreements and provide protection to the Palestinian civilians until the Israeli occupation is brought to an end and a final settlement is reached between the two sides.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dr. Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 10 May 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israel, the occupying Power, continues to pursue its military campaign against the Palestinian people under its occupation. Daily, Israeli occupying forces, using countless and the most advanced military means and methods, have assaulted Palestinian civilians and Palestinian areas throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Today, Israeli occupying forces launched at least four missiles against three Palestinian locations in the centre of Gaza City, including a security headquarters and the headquarters of Fatah, the mainstream Palestinian political party, in the city. These attacks resulted in the injury of several people, severe structural damage, and caused fear and panic to spread among the civilian population in the area.

In the last two days, Israeli occupying forces also sent tanks and bulldozers into the territory under full Palestinian control in several locations in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, including the town of Al-Bireh. The tanks pounded targets, causing extensive physical damage and injuries to civilians in the area, before they were withdrawn.

Allow me, at this time, to refer also to the recent letter by the Israeli Representative to the United Nations (A/56/69-S/2001/459). The letter follows the usual pattern of lies and distortions and attempts to falsely assign blame, as well as complete disregard for facts, international law and existing agreements. In this regard, we wish to state clearly that the Palestinian Authority has nothing to do with the weapons Israel says it captured in a boat off the coast of the Gaza Strip earlier this week. Further, we reiterate that the Israeli settlers, who have been illegally transferred by the occupying Power to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, in grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and in total violation of relevant Security Council resolutions, remain the exclusive responsibility of the occupying Power. Moreover, we hold the Israeli Government wholly responsible for the war crimes and other atrocities being committed by the Israeli occupying forces against the Palestinian people and for Israeli State terrorism

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being waged against Palestinian civilians and targets throughout the Occupied Territory.

In follow-up to my previous letters on this very dangerous and grave issue dated from 29 September 2000 to 9 May 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; and A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463), I regret to inform you that yet another Palestinian civilian has died as a result of the brutal actions of the occupying forces. (The name of the martyr is contained in the annex to the present letter.) This death raises the total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 to 444 people. At the same time, the total number of Palestinian civilians injured, many severely and permanently, also continues to rise each day.

The international community should not remain idle while the Israeli occupying forces continue to wreak death, injury and destruction upon the Palestinian people under occupation. As long as such a situation continues, the wrong message is sent to the occupying Power. We call upon the international community and the Security Council to take the necessary action in this regard, in particular the provision of protection for Palestinian civilians.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as an official document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dr. Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 10 May 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Tuesday, 8 May 2001 through Wednesday, 9 May 2001)

Tuesday, 8 May 2001

1. Hashem Suliman Al-Mamlouk (16 years old) (died from wounds sustained earlier)

* Total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 = 444.

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Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 14 May 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

In the early morning hours of today (Palestine time), Israeli occupying forces executed five Palestinian policemen who were at a Palestinian checkpoint in the town of Beitunia, west of Ramallah. The bodies of the three Palestinians killed were found in a hole beside the checkpoint, while the other two killed were found in a caravan on the site. The Israeli army spoke today of "operational activity" near Beitunia in which the soldiers opened fire on "suspicious figures". These wilful killings represent additional war crimes committed by the Israeli occupying forces in an escalated pattern of the Israeli military campaign against the Palestinian people. Today's war crimes should be vigorously condemned and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

Also in the early morning hours of today, Israeli helicopter gunships and naval boats fired missiles at several security and police stations in the Gaza Strip, one of which lies in the heart of Gaza City, destroying police armoured vehicles and several buildings. These attacks resulted in the injury of several people and caused widespread fear and anxiety among the civilian population in the area.

At the same time, the Israeli occupying forces continue to pursue the illegal and criminal policy of extrajudicial killing. Yesterday, Israeli helicopter gunships fired at least five missiles at a parked car, killing one of the passengers. Another Palestinian policeman in a nearby traffic car was also killed in this attack.

Moreover, Israeli occupying forces have repeatedly entered the territories under full Palestinian control in the last few days. These incursions by the Israeli occupying forces have resulted in the vast destruction of property and the uprooting of orchards as well as in creating great panic, terrorizing the Palestinian civilian population living under the brutal Israeli occupation.

In follow-up to my previous letters, dated from 29 September 2000 to 10 May 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-

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S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284, A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; and A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471). I regret to inform you that 11 more Palestinians, including the martyrs mentioned above, have died as a result of the brutal actions of the occupying forces. (The names of the martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.) These deaths raise the total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 to 455 people. At the same time, the total number of Palestinian civilians injured, many severely and permanently, also continues to rise each day.

We hold the Israeli Government fully responsible for the above-mentioned war crimes and other atrocities committed against the Palestinian people in grave violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, as well as other instruments of international law and relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Furthermore, we believe that Israel, the occupying Power, persists with these actions because of what it perceives as the inability of the Security Council to react effectively in putting an end to these Israeli atrocities. The inaction of the Council effectively develops a culture of impunity within which Israel is acting. This inaction must end and the Security Council must bear its responsibilities under the United Nations Charter.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dr. Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 14 May 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Thursday, 10 May 2001 through Monday, 14 May 2001)

Thursday, 10 May 2001

1. Kefah Khalid Zo'rob (16 years old)
2. Khader Hussein Jendeya

Friday, 11 May 2001

1. Hossam Fawaz Tafesh (16 years old)

Saturday, 12 May 2001

1. Allam Nasr Jaloudi
2. Mo'tasem Al-Sabagh
3. Salman Al-Arouki

Monday, 14 May 2001

1. Ahmed Zakout
2. Salah Abu Amrah
3. Ahmed Abu Mustafa
4. Ala Sawalha
5. Mahmoud Abu Dawoud Al-Khalidi

* Total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 = 455.

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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 15 May 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Today, the Palestinian people solemnly commemorated the day of *Al-Nakba*, marking the date 53 years ago when the Palestinian people were dispossessed and uprooted from their homeland in 1948 amidst massacres, destruction and devastation of war. Demonstrations were held today, which included the observance by the Palestinian people of three minutes of mournful silence, throughout Palestinian villages, towns, cities and refugee camps in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem.

Today, the Israeli occupying forces also continued to pursue the bloody military campaign that has been waged against the Palestinian people since 28 September 2000. Following a typical and recurrent pattern, the Israeli occupying forces confronted Palestinian demonstrators with a disproportionate and excessive use of force, including live ammunition, rubber bullets and the use of snipers. These violent actions by the occupying forces resulted in the killing of 4 Palestinians and the wounding of more than 130 people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. Furthermore, in addition to the barbaric executions committed yesterday by the Israeli occupying forces, of which we informed you in our letter of 14 May 2001 (A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479), two more Palestinians were killed by the occupying forces yesterday in Gaza.

In follow-up to my previous letters to you on this grave matter, dated from 29 September 2000 to 14 May 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101;

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A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284, A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471; and A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479), it is my deep regret to inform you that since my letter to you yesterday, a total of six more Palestinians were killed by the Israeli occupying forces. (The names of the martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.) These killings bring the total number of Palestinian martyrs since 28 September 2000 to 461 people. Further, as evidenced by today's tragic events, the number of Palestinians injured as a direct result of actions of the occupying forces also continues to rise.

It is inconceivable that the international community can continue to stand by idly while daily military assaults, human rights violations and war crimes continue to be perpetrated by the Israeli occupying forces against the Palestinian people living under occupation. Rather, the international community must take urgent measures to bring an end to this bloody Israeli military campaign and to provide protection to the Palestinian civilians. This must begin with necessary and immediate action by the Security Council, which has been long overdue.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dr. Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 15 May 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem*

(Monday, 14 May 2001 to Tuesday, 15 May 2001)

Monday, 14 May 2001 (in addition to the 5 martyrs included in the letter of 14 May 2001)

1. Mohammed Yussef Al Qassas
2. Arafat Talal Abu Kuweik

Tuesday, 15 May 2001

1. Abdel Hakim Al Mana`amah
2. Mohammed Jihad Abu Jaser (17 years old)
3. Abdel Jawad Shehadah
4. Burhan Al Shakhsheer

* Total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 equals 461.